

# CHAPEL OF THE CROSS

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## LUTHERAN



FAITH • HOPE • LOVE

# Welcome to Chapel of the Cross - Lutheran!

## **To Our Visitors**

We offer you a very warm welcome to Chapel of the Cross - Lutheran! We are happy to have you worshipping with us and hope that your worship here today and the Word of God that is shared will assist you in the week ahead. If you are looking for a church home, we hope that you would prayerfully consider making Chapel of the Cross that home. May God bless your week!

## **Nursery**

If you need to take your infant or toddler out of the worship service, the nursery is available for your use. The worship service is broadcast to the nursery. An usher will be happy to show you where it is located.

## **Sunday School and Bible Study**

We have an exciting Sunday School program for children age 2 and up. We also offer Bible studies for youth and adults at 9:45 a.m. Sunday School rooms are in the Lower Level. Check the Chapel Weekly handout for Bible study locations. An usher will be happy to take you to the appropriate place.

## **Holy Communion**

Holy Communion is celebrated regularly and often here at Chapel of the Cross. If you have questions about Holy Communion and what we as a church believe about it, please speak with the Pastor before the service. Children are invited to come forward with their parents for a blessing.

## **Sound Enhancement Devices**

If you are hearing impaired there are sound enhancement devices available. Please ask an usher for a personal receiver.

### **The Mission of Chapel of the Cross**

*Chapel of the Cross - Lutheran exists to show the love of Jesus to the people of North County and beyond so that all may have a living relationship with Christ.*

# Second Sunday in Lent

February 24 & 25, 2024

5:00 p.m. & 8:30 a.m.

*Please note: The 8:30 a.m. worship service is live streamed and recorded.*

## AS WE GATHER

Today we hear the apostle Paul proclaim something rather odd: that we can rejoice in our sufferings. Paul says this because—as he tells us—suffering produces endurance, endurance produces character, character produces hope, and hope does not put us to shame because our hope is in Jesus who died and is risen for us and our reconciliation and peace. That is something to rejoice in!

## PRELUDE

“Nobody Knows the Trouble I’ve Seen”

Traditional Spiritual  
arr. by Teresa Wilhelmi

## WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS, AND EXCHANGE OF PEACE

*It is important to recognize that some people are especially susceptible to viruses that can be spread by contact and that some immune systems are very sensitive. Please understand that some may choose not to shake hands during the Exchange of Peace, but might simply greet you with a verbal greeting, a wave, or a smile.*

## ✠ PREPARATION ✠

*The congregation turns and faces the cross as the procession approaches the altar reminding us that Christ leads us into the presence of God.*

*Please stand*

### ENTRANCE HYMN

**964** Lift Every Voice and Sing

### INVOCATION

**Leader:** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People:** Amen.

### CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

**Leader:** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

**People:** But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

**Leader:** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

**People:** Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

Leader: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ He gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit. May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

People: Amen.

## KYRIE

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.  
Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.  
Christ, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.  
Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Leader: The Lord be with you.  
People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us pray.  
People: Gracious Father, for the joy set before Him, Your Son Jesus endured the suffering of the cross. In our suffering, O Lord, strengthen our faith that we may know Your companionship in our darkest hours, through Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

## ✠ WORD ✠

### OLD TESTAMENT READING

Genesis 17:1–7, 15–16

*(God renames Abram as Abraham.)*

<sup>1</sup> When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to him and said, "I am God Almighty; walk before me and be blameless. <sup>2</sup> I will confirm my covenant between me and you and will greatly increase your numbers."

<sup>3</sup> Abram fell facedown, and God said to him, <sup>4</sup> "As for me, this is my covenant with you: You will be the father of many nations. <sup>5</sup> No longer will you be called Abram; your name will be Abraham, for I have made you a father of many nations. <sup>6</sup> I will make you very fruitful; I will make nations of you, and kings will come from you. <sup>7</sup> I will establish my covenant as an everlasting covenant between me and you and your descendants after you for the generations to come, to be your God and the God of your descendants after you.

<sup>15</sup> God also said to Abraham, "As for Sarai your wife, you are no longer to call her Sarai; her name will be Sarah. <sup>16</sup> I will bless her and will surely give you a son by her. I will bless her so that she will be the mother of nations; kings of peoples will come from her."

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

### PSALM

Psalms 22:23-31

Leader: You who fear the LORD, praise him! All you descendants of Jacob, honor him!

People: **Revere him, all you descendants of Israel!**

Leader: For he has not despised or disdained the suffering of the afflicted one;

People: **he has not hidden his face from him but has listened to his cry for help.**

Leader: From you comes the theme of my praise in the great assembly;

People: **before those who fear you will I fulfill my vows.**

Leader: The poor will eat and be satisfied; they who seek the LORD will praise him—  
**People: may your hearts live forever!**

Leader: All the ends of the earth will remember and turn to the LORD, and all the families of the nations will bow down before him,  
**People: for dominion belongs to the LORD and he rules over the nations.**

Leader: All the rich of the earth will feast and worship; all who go down to the dust will kneel before him—  
**People: those who cannot keep themselves alive.**

Leader: Posterity will serve him; future generations will be told about the Lord.  
**People: They will proclaim his righteousness to a people yet unborn-- for he has done it.**

## EPISTLE

Romans 5:1–11

*(Christ died for the ungodly.)*

<sup>1</sup> Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>2</sup> through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we rejoice in the hope of the glory of God. <sup>3</sup> Not only so, but we also rejoice in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; <sup>4</sup> perseverance, character; and character, hope. <sup>5</sup> And hope does not disappoint us, because God has poured out his love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, whom he has given us.

<sup>6</sup> You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. <sup>7</sup> Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous man, though for a good man someone might possibly dare to die. <sup>8</sup> But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

*(continued on next page)*

<sup>9</sup> Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God's wrath through him! <sup>10</sup> For if, when we were God's enemies, we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son, how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved through his life! <sup>11</sup> Not only is this so, but we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

## GRADUAL

753 All For Christ I Have Forsaken



1 All for Christ I have for - sak - en And have  
2 Who is sweet - er than Christ Je - sus? No good  
3 Gone the past, un - known the fu - ture— Grace sup -  
4 When God takes me home to heav - en, Should this  
5 Though the road a - head be thorn - y, Though dark



tak - en up my cross; World - ly joy, its  
thing in Him I lack! Hand to plow, at  
plies my dai - ly breath; Strong in Christ through  
be the day I die, God will keep my  
clouds all light ob - scure, Though my cross - shaped



fame and for - tune, Now I count as worth-less dross.  
peace I fol - low Where He leads me ... why look back?  
death's dark val - ley, Firm and faith - ful un - to death.  
spouse and chil - dren As the ap - ple of His eye.  
path grows steep - er, With the Lord, I am se - cure.

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*Please stand*

**Leader:** The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the eighth chapter.

**People:** **Glory to You, O Lord.**

## **HOLY GOSPEL**

Mark 8:27–38

*(Jesus is the Christ who must suffer, die, and rise again.)*

<sup>27</sup> Jesus and his disciples went on to the villages around Caesarea Philippi. On the way he asked them, "Who do people say I am?"

<sup>28</sup> They replied, "Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets."

<sup>29</sup> "But what about you?" he asked. "Who do you say I am?"

Peter answered, "You are the Christ."

<sup>30</sup> Jesus warned them not to tell anyone about him.

<sup>31</sup> He then began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders, chief priests and teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and after three days rise again. <sup>32</sup> He spoke plainly about this, and Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him.

<sup>33</sup> But when Jesus turned and looked at his disciples, he rebuked Peter. "Get behind me, Satan!" he said. "You do not have in mind the things of God, but the things of men."

<sup>34</sup> Then he called the crowd to him along with his disciples and said: "If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. <sup>35</sup> For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for me and for the gospel will save it. <sup>36</sup> What good is it for a man to gain the whole world, yet forfeit his soul? <sup>37</sup> Or what can a man give in exchange for his soul? <sup>38</sup> If anyone is ashamed of me and my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, the Son of Man will be ashamed of him when he comes in his Father's glory with the holy angels."

**Leader:** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**People:** **Praise to You, O Christ.**

## HYMN

688      “Come, Follow Me” the Savior Spake

## PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Sermon Notes:

*Please stand*

### APOSTLES’ CREED

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Leader: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

+ + + **Special Intercessions** + + +

**Each concluding:** Leader: Lord, in Your mercy, **People: hear our prayer.**

Leader: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**People: Amen.**

## OFFERING

*During the offering, please sign the Record of Fellowship found at the end of each pew*

"I Want Jesus to Walk with Me"

setting by Hal H. Hopson

*Please stand*

## OFFERTORY

857 Lord, Help Us Walk Your Servant Way

**1 Lord, help us walk Your servant way**

**Wherever love may lead**

**And, bending low, forgetting self,**

**Each serve the other's need.**

**4 You bid us bend our human pride**

**Nor count ourselves above**

**The lowest place, the meanest task**

**That waits the gift of love.**

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## PRAYER

Leader: Almighty God, we thank You for teaching us the things You want us to believe and do. Help us by Your Holy Spirit to keep Your Word in pure hearts that we may be strengthened in faith, guided in holiness, and comforted in life and in death, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

## LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

## BENEDICTION

Leader: The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

People: **Amen.**

*Please turn towards the cross as it is carried out of the church, and remain facing it until the hymn is completed. This symbolizes our following Christ into the world as we leave.*

## RECESSIONAL HYMN

837 Lift High the Cross

## POSTLUDE

“Lift High the Cross”

setting by William Bates

repare for next weekend’s worship by reading:

Exodus 20:1-17; 1 Corinthians 1:18-31; John 2:13-22

Find a devotional guide on the readings at [www.chapelofthecross.org/walkingtogether](http://www.chapelofthecross.org/walkingtogether)

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## Serving at Chapel

|                         |                 |                |
|-------------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| Preacher:               | Theodore Laesch |                |
| Liturgists:             | 5:00 p.m.       | Jacob Anderson |
|                         | 8:30 a.m.       | Adam Rouse     |
| Lectors:                | 8:30 a.m.       | George Tomazi  |
| Acolytes:               | 8:30 a.m.       | Emma Runser    |
|                         | 11:00 a.m.      | Nathan Runser  |
| Organist & Accompanist: | Ryan Meyer      |                |
| Elder of the Week:      | Gene Weidner    |                |

## Chapel of the Cross - Lutheran

11645 Benham Road, St. Louis, MO 63136  
(314) 741-3737      [www.chapelofthecross.org](http://www.chapelofthecross.org)  
Email: [office@chapelofthecross.org](mailto:office@chapelofthecross.org)

## Worship and Christian Education

Saturday - 5:00 p.m.  
Sunday - 8:30 and 11:00 a.m.

Worship Service broadcast on KFUD 850 AM Sundays at 4:00 p.m.  
Live internet streaming at [www.chapelofthecross.org](http://www.chapelofthecross.org) Sundays at 11:00 a.m.

*Holy Communion is celebrated the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays of the month at 8:30 a.m.,  
the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays of the month at 11:00 a.m.,  
and the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Saturdays of the month at 5:00 p.m.*

Sunday school for children, Sunday Bible classes for adults and youth – 9:45 a.m.

## Chapel Ministry Staff

|  | <u>Home Phone</u> | <u>E-mail</u>  |
|--|-------------------|--|
| Theodore Laesch, Pastor                          | 355-0688          | <a href="mailto:pastorlaesch@chapelofthecross.org">pastorlaesch@chapelofthecross.org</a>     |
| Ellory Glenn, Specific Ministry Pastor           | 369-8014          | <a href="mailto:ellory.glenn@chapelofthecross.org">ellory.glenn@chapelofthecross.org</a>     |
| Brett Arrasmith, Vicar                           | 417-592-1854      | <a href="mailto:vicar@chapelofthecross.org">vicar@chapelofthecross.org</a>                   |
| Ryan Meyer, Director of Music                    | 839-0306          | <a href="mailto:ryan.meyer@chapelofthecross.org">ryan.meyer@chapelofthecross.org</a>         |
| Bill Rusnak, Director of Adult Ministry          | 200-9797          | <a href="mailto:bill.rusnak@chapelofthecross.org">bill.rusnak@chapelofthecross.org</a>       |
| Clifford Bischoff, Pastoral Assistant            | 921-1107          | <a href="mailto:pastorbischoff@chapelofthecross.org">pastorbischoff@chapelofthecross.org</a> |
| Mary Laesch, Children and Family Ministry Coord. | 355-0688          | <a href="mailto:family@chapelofthecross.org">family@chapelofthecross.org</a>                 |

## Missions

Chapel of the Cross supports the ministry of the English District and the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod as well as the Lutheran High School Association. We also assist the following ministries and organizations:

|   |                               |                           |
|---|-------------------------------|---------------------------|
| *Day 3 Seeds                                      | *Lutheran Heritage Foundation | *Lutheran Chaplains       |
| L.A.M.P. Lutheran Assoc. of Missionaries & Pilots |                               | Helping Hands Food Pantry |
| Concordia Seminary                                | Friend of Moms                | Lutherans for Life        |
| KFUD Radio  | Chapel Summer Camp            |                           |

*\* indicates special emphasis in 2024*

*Chapel of the Cross - Lutheran is affiliated with the  
English District of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod*